ILLYRIA

lowed in 11 and 16 B. C. and in 6 and 9 A. D., joined by the rebel Pannonians. Finally, Tiberius completely subjugated them in 9 A. D. along with Dalmatia, Iapidia and Liburnia, forming them into the Province of Illyricum. 175 x

For the next two or three centuries Latin civilization flourished in Illyria. Industrially, [314] gold was mined in Bosnia and commercial cities sprang into being along the coast. Agri- [345] culturally, the cultivation of the vine was introduced with more than satisfactory results. Almost the whole of Illyria became a recruiting ground for the Roman legions, and in turbulent times, from the East, many of the Illyrian soldiers fought their way up to the imperial purple. Claudius, Aurelian, Probus, Diocletian and Maximian[1] were all sons of Illyrian peasants. Through the growth in importance of Illyricum, many districts were added and thus in the second century A. D. the *Illyricum Times* included Noricum, Pannonia, Moesia, Dacia and Thrace.

The Via Egnatia which extended from 491 Dyrrachium, across Illyricum to Constantinople, was built during this period, in this manner forming a definite link between Rome and Constantinople.

[1] [Errata: should be Maximinus. Cf. Errata Sheet, p. 269, cat. 116 -- Analyst]

ing, accompanied by the women on tambour-
533 ines and they by the men on violins and
535 cornets. Their dances are picturesque in their native costumes with their hair either flowing or bound up, according to the particular dance. For those who may interpret their dances, there is a rich abundance of narrative in store for the reader. The harmony of tambourine, violin and cornet is not at all unpleasant when played by skilled musicians. The singing, however, is not harmon-
563 ized, the performers using only one voice.
[461] Regardless of where these gypsies may live they earn their living in the same way, and being too lazy to cultivate even a small truck-garden, they lead easy, happy-go-lucky exist-
[497] ences, and they have their huts free of rent, provided they work a few days out of the year for their ground landlord, Shevket Bey. Strange as it may seem, these wandering,
[526] anchorless people are about the only local blacksmiths found in this country, for the Albanians proper have a curious aversion to this occupation.

245 After leaving this quaint little town of Bradshesh, and penetrating into the heart of Albania towards Elbasan, large, beautiful

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

245 olive groves cover the surrounding hills turning them into lofty, dark mounds of rich olive-green. Amid all of this rolling naturalness 258 of Mother Nature, the new factory for refining the local oil gives it a startling note of modernity. There is oil in plenty in these rich regions.

361 Rounding the corner of a hill, a sheer wall rises in the near vicinity, with a few, ancient spires soaring above it. Upon approaching the wall, its height becomes more apparent and which proves to be the historic old town of Elbasan, over which there hangs an aura of historic romance. This high wall gives the small city a most oriental appearance which is in truth, a reality, for Elbasan was founded by Sultan Mohammed II for the purpose of suppressing the natives of this district, because, in 1566, at the time of his conquest, there were few settlements in this region. The Sultan therefore built the town which [103] is now known and called Elbasan, a word of uncertain derivation, but most probably being the Turkish *el basan*, meaning "*land subduing*," and which in all likelihood, was a copy of Alexander the Great's foundation of 000 Smyrna. Here also Mohammed II left several

[1 In the heart of Albania towards Elbasan --Analyst]

AN INTIMATE GLIMPSE INTO ALBANIA

000 with their dusky green leaves and snarled old roots and trunks, to the grey, white and sun-baked shades of the dreamy little town, and all this set like a tiny little drop on the vast, fertile plain.

132 Elbasan is well-known for its great variety of products, made possible by the rich soil of the plain. The town, sheltered by the immense old wall, enjoys a somewhat hot-house atmosphere, for which it should indeed be grateful, for it becomes terrifically cold during the winter months when the east winds sweep over it from the mountains of 133 Librazhd. These great monarchs, snow-crowned ten months of the year, which surround the plain are very cool even in August, making them delightful resorts from the heat of the plain.

241 This district is versatile in that it can produce, in this dual atmosphere, both the products of the north and the south. There is an abundance of cotton, rice and tobacco, as 245 well as maize, barley and wheat. And unlike many of its neighbors, it has its own figs, grapes, melons, oranges, lemons and olives growing on the plain, and apples, pears, raspberries and various other northern fruits mellowing into ripeness on the mountains p. 123 surrounding Elbasan.

Berat

361 HOSE who have seen Berat have been justly profuse in praising it. With its stately old Cathedral and many interesting and unique churches and mosques, and above all its splendid castles, gems of architecture, it is worthy of its high reputation and the admiration of all peoples. The ruins of the fortresses and once handsome loggias only enhance the beauty of this city.

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The town itself lies on an unsurpassingly picturesque defile of the Osum River, and resembles the exquisite pictures by the old masters of quaint cathedral cities.

In this city stand many palaces of those old noble families, as the Vloras' and the Vrionis', who centuries ago held the power of princes in their own districts.

Here to-day all is fraternal harmony with Moslem and Christian living side by side.

• 245 The principal means of livelihood of the inhabitants of Berat is the olive trade, which is supported by all the vicinity as the chief crop.

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

sirability to improve the quality and the quantity of the domestic crop in order to be able to export wheat into the eastern neighboring country, Greece, and elsewhere.

Besides maize and wheat, there are numerous other grainfruits grown in rather equally large proportions. Rye is to be found in the mountainous regions of the east and northeast; oats and barley are grown in almost all sections of the country.

It is also to be noted with interest the rapid growth in the production of rice in Albania. This particular industry thrives in the districts of Elbasan and Berat. Here are many rice plantations and improvements in the irrigation system which has been rather antiquated to a certain extent, and since such a great supply of water is necessary, there have been great strides made in bettering the method of agriculture which will, without doubt, greatly enhance the production of rice.

Hemp is also raised successfully.

Flax and cotton are also cultivated and the crops show a steady increase.

Following in importance to the stabilizing grainfruits, the growth of olives holds a position of note. Albania possesses about 1,500,-

AGRICULTURE

000 trees which are scattered over an area of about 5,000 acres; to increase the supply, about 40,000 young olive trees have been planted in the last few years. The more favorable localities are in Elbasan and Durazzo, although there has been great success in raising trees at Alessio (Lesh), Kavaja and Delvina (Delvinë). However, the fruit alone was exported in former years and the fine oil had to be imported, but since 1930, two large oil refineries have been erected in Elbasan, and others elsewhere later on, and it is interesting to relate that, for the first time in 1931, about 110,000 pounds of refined oil could be exported.

Almost throughout the entire country, vast tobacco fields are to be found, which represent another great source of potential wealth for Albania. The more important fields are in the neighborhoods of Berat, Durazzo, Elbasan, Kavaja, Tepelena and Tirana where an excellent tobacco is grown in great quantities. The tobacco crop of 1932 amounted to about 3,500,000 pounds, and has been vastly increased year by year since. In order to draw every possible benefit for this branch of production, a far-reaching program has been

[Errata: should be Tepelene, Scutari and Tirana; Cf. Errata sheet, p. 269, CAT. III -- Analyst]

249 started which will, in all probability, help not only to increase the production of tobacco, but also to improve the quality and preparation of the leaf, so that it will find a better and more ready market the world over. This program has already been set in motion and it is believed that it will be of considerable importance toward increasing national wealth.

• 245 In the fertile orchards and gardens of Albania there is hardly any kind of fruit missing; the cultivation of these is carried on on a vast scale, and offers a more prosperous future. There are figs, lemons, oranges, cherries, apples, pears, pomegranates, pistachios, mulberries, apricots, peaches, melons, tomatoes, almonds and nuts grown in a large number of sections of Albania and an ample quantity exists for export. Within the last three [654] years, the government has distributed about 200,000 fruit trees, gratis, to the fruit growers with the view of increasing production.

The Citrus fruit is preeminently Albanian and more than 300,000 pieces are exported annually.

249 The sumac, used by dyers, is the principal cultivation of the Mirdites and in the district of Scutari and Durazzo. There is a certain amount of export trade in the wood and leaves.

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The cultivation of vegetables has not been neglected, and in recent years special care has been taken to spread and increase the growth of all kinds of vegetables. The most favored districts for the growth of vegetables, especially peas, beans and all the other leguminous products, are around Durazzo, Elbasan and Korça. In the neighborhood of these towns the increase of vegetable cultivation is steadily progressing, and has become a rather important source of income for the suburban population.

The growing of cotton was started during war time; most of its cultivation was centered first in the valley of the Viosa River, and later spread into the districts of Tirana and Elbasan where it met with such success that it was later tried at Durazzo and elsewhere where it bore very good results. The government has zealously favored the cotton plantations and helping in numerous ways to increase production.

Among the almost all-embracing productions of Albania is to be added the grape. The wild vine grows on the calcereous mountains

3: Redlich S-3 (no date) 1936 EG1 Albania EG1

245 to the north-east of Scutari and on the mountains of southern Albania. These vineyards are rather extensive. The best vineyards to be found are in the sections of Berat, Elbasan,
274 Korça, Scutari and Tirana. A wine, which in color and fire resembles that of the south of Spain, is produced on the slopes of Podrina, north of the Drin.

253 Due to the large supplies of game and stock-bred cattle in this rich country, meat is plentiful—meat of all varieties. Since the native market is more than cared for a considerable quantity is prepared for exportation.

4: Garnett B-4, 5 (ca. 1880) 1891
EG1 Albania EG1

755 in which he remains seated three days, at the end of which time he is washed with "unspoken-over" water.[1] This, which is also called by an Albanian word signifying "stolen," is water drawn from the well or fountain in silence and carried home without the bearer having spoken, or been spoken to, on the way, and it is believed to possess highly salutary virtues. Into the water some "sweet" or "heavy" leaves are thrown, the number and also the kind being determined by fixed rules according to the nature of the malady. Among the "sweet" leaves are those of the pomegranate, apple, and rose trees, and also, strange to say, of nettles; among the "heavy," those of the laurel, cypress, ivy, and other evergreens. Three days after such an ablution the patient is expected either to recover or to die. Should he be able to indicate the spot on which he received the blow, the earth is there sprinkled with rose-water in order to appease the offended beings, who are said to be extremely fond of this scent; or he there throws down something, the nature of which is known only to himself, in the belief that the malady from which he suffers will be transferred to the being who may chance to tread upon it.

755 754 The effects of the evil eye are also removed by sprinkling the patient with "unspoken-over" water, three nettle stalks being dipped into it for that purpose, and giving him to eat three mulberry buds, the mulberry tree being one of the sovereign antidotes for that much dreaded influence.

755 Rheumatism in the hands or feet is cured by

[1] Such water is also used by the Greeks, who call it νερὸ ἀφέτου.

cure. The Mountain Ghegs also grow much fruit on trees near their houses. The chief species are quinces, pears, and apples.

Women have charge of milking the cows and making butter, curds, and cheese. Small boys are usually employed as shepherds, and lead their flocks high on the mountains. In the summertime many Gheg families drive their cattle up to the Alpine meadows on the mountain passes, and keep them there weeks at a time while they make butter and cheese. While on these heights they live in small temporary houses (fig. 8, *c*). The people of Klementi, however, who live in high valleys, drive their flocks to the plain of Scutari every year for winter pasture.

Animal husbandry furnishes the Ghegs not only with much of their food, but also with a supply of energy, for they use oxen in ploughing, and horses for travel and the transport of goods. In the wintertime they keep their cows and horses indoors, while the pigs, in Catholic regions, have special sties. Late winter and early spring is the season when food is scarce. The corncrib may be empty, and only the seed corn hanging in bunches from the walls will remain untouched. The cows are dry, and the flitches of pork and bacon gone from the ceiling.

This is the time when the mountain people, their tempers more and more irritable, used to turn to raiding, and while some rustled each other's animals, others came down out of the mountains to steal cattle from the people on the plains. Mirdita raided Zadrima, and Mati raided the low country around Elbasan. This annual hunger was the result of a complete economic occupance of the land, coupled with an excess of births over deaths. Raiding brought in more food, but feuding caused more deaths. Between the two, plus a certain amount of emigration, the balance was reached.

Transportation in Ghegnia was, in 1929, as poor as anywhere in Europe. There were a certain number of roads over which people could walk, in some places ride animals, and in most, carry goods on animal back. In a few places the trails were too steep for animals, and men had to pack in goods by pannier. The principal road, which will be described later, goes from Scutari and Lesh by way of Vau i Denjes to Puka, then on to Kukes, and across

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1 [See cat. 116, p. 108 .. Analyst
2 [See cat. 116 p 42a - Analyst

10:Hasluck F-5 (1926-1939)1954 EGl Albania EGl

417 and if properly placed to begin with, caused no trouble. The same
685 was true of living hedges inland. On the other hand, living hedges in the marshy areas near the mouth of the river Mat sometimes
[241] grew so tall that they damaged the neighbouring land with their shade. To prevent this, the owner had to lop overgrown trees once every three years. Failing this, his neighbour could complain to the headman; inevitably they gave him leave to cut the trees down to the root on the owner's ground, an intrusion that was in itself a punishment, and fined the owner 250–450 grosh for breaking the law about lopping.

423 Similar rules regulated the planting of fruit and other trees, olives
245 being included among the former. In Mirditë a fruit tree might be planted only 5 'feet' (1 metre) from the boundary; another kind had to be at least 10 feet away. In Godolesh, a great fruit-growing area, a fruit tree could be planted on the very boundary, but in adjacent Labinot it had to be a span away. In Shkrel it could be planted anywhere on one's own ground, as it never caused trouble
[685] by itself. As with living hedges, care had to be taken that a tree did not cast harmful shade over a neighbour's land. If one did so in Shkrel the owner agreed amicably to lop it, raising no objections unless he had already quarrelled with his neighbour over something else. In Mirditë he was bound to lop the offending branches; if he failed to do so his neighbour could lop them as high as he could reach with a hook, the handle of which did not exceed 3½ spans in length. In the mountains of Lesh the owner had to uproot the tree or to pay annual damages to his neighbour. In Godolesh the neighbour was entitled to stretch as far as he could and cut the too luxuriant branches with his short-handled axe. If a tree was doing no damage to neighbouring ground, it could not be lopped except by its owner. A man who transgressed this law in Mirditë had to pay its owner 500 grosh.

312 Sometimes an open drain adjoined a boundary. When it was
423 first cut, each of the two neighbours provided half the ground
476 required, did half the work and retained the earth excavated from his own side. Three stones, one big and two small, were left at the head to mark the boundary; the two other sets, normally placed in the middle and at the foot, were removed to make room for the water; as the drain discharged into a bigger channel, they could not possibly be left at the foot. The boundary naturally ran exactly down the middle. In most places the drain had to be cleared out